

Youth activism for climate justice

How to achieve border-free youth participation



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Design: Lina Mombauer

Pictures: Naturfreundejugend Deutschlands, ASAN, CREDI-ONG, VENRO (page 7)

Published by Kinder- und Jugendwerk der Naturfreunde, Verein zur Förderung der Naturfreundejugend Deutschlands e.V. (address see below) in cooperation with ASAN - Association Sénégalaise des Amis de la Nature, CREDI-ONG and International Young Naturefriends and supported by the Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid NGOs (VENRO).

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All texts were written by the project team and the participants of the project.



This publication is part of the project „EU Presidency Projekt 2020-2022 - Towards an open, fair and sustainable Europe in the world“ which is funded by the European Union and implemented by the Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid NGOs (VENRO), the Portuguese Non-Governmental Development Organizations Platform (Plataforma Portuguesa das ONGD) the Slovenian NGO Platform for Development, Global Education and Humanitarian Aid (SLOGA), and the European NGO confederation of relief and development (CONCORD).

This publication has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of Naturfreundejugend Deutschlands and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union.

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Foreword

Young people in Africa and Europe have an opinion on political topics, as we witnessed at the worldwide climate strike movement set up by a young Swedish student. No matter where they are coming from, these young people are filling the streets and demanding climate justice. They have concrete ideas on how to solve social and ecological problems. These ideas must be heard as these young people will be the future generation. They want to take over responsibility, also for the following generations.

However: if it comes to immediate contact with politics, young people quite often do not know how to reach out to politicians and how to formulate their concrete demands and wishes. Due to a lack of response by representatives of policy-making bodies, young people may have the feeling of not being taken seriously. Thus, young people have the right to be involved in decision-making processes that are concerning and influencing their living conditions.

On one nice and sunny summer day, young Naturefriends from Benin, Senegal and Germany decided to address these matters. They started a project with the aim to empower young people to formulate their demands and wishes towards stakeholders and to prepare them to enter a dialogue with the decision-makers. We have not started from scratch, on the contrary, we naturally built on already existing cooperation and experience.

As Young Naturefriends we have a great experience in carrying out international activities and youth exchange programmes. The Naturefriends movement originated 125 years ago from the idea of establishing an international organisation. Today we are connected under the organisation of International Young Naturefriends with 17 member and 12 partner organisations around

the world. For this proposed project we also relied on our experiences from two youth exchanges between the German Young Naturefriends (NFJD) and Senegalese Naturefriends (ASAN) in recent years. The main topic of the last exchange was climate justice and more specifically SDG 13 "Climate Action". All project partners work on a regular basis on combating climate change and aiming to reach climate justice by using SDG 13 "Climate Action" as a tool to reach this goal.



In our project, young people from Benin, Senegal and Germany discussed the SDG 13, with a special focus on climate justice and the European-African relations. These young people are experts of their own living realities and they are coming from different backgrounds, which enriched the discussion. After workshops in each country, we met online with all participants as well as later on with a bigger international group for an international summit. We did not really realise at the beginning that our project was growing bigger and bigger but we saw that the young people got encouraged and empowered to work further together and started to shape the project according to their needs.



In this publication, we collected our experiences regarding youth participation, the working process and the partnership for future projects. We would like to offer them to you, as guidelines and inspiration for further projects. We would like to support and motivate other young people to participate in political debates. Let's think further about how we can be more vocal, reasona-

ble and how to achieve that our opinion will be respected. We will talk about the methods we used, the challenges we had or share useful tips on how to proceed with such a project, how to hold workshops, how to organise conferences and how to cooperate with others in general. So just keep reading and start to raise your voice for a more just and sustainable future.

What is the political background?



Some people are calling 2020 a lost year when it comes to African-European relations. The fact is that we can't blame this only on the current circumstances in work of worldwide pandemic. The roots of this problem lie deeper.

2020 was expected to be a crucial year for Africa and Europe and their relationship. In March, EU development commissioner Jutta Urpilainen and EU High Representative Josep Borrell announced their new European Union - African Union Strategy. This draft for a 'partnership' proposed on eve of the COVID-19 pandemic, was courageously pointing to one aim - "build a more prosperous, more peaceful and more sustainable future for all". The document is divided into 5 respectful parts: partnerships on energy, digitalisation, inward investment, peace and migration.

Don't you miss something here? You say Africa?

Good question, and here we are getting close to the cause of this problem. This draft is a strategy developed by the European Union (EU) without previous consultation with the African Union (AU). It states that shared responsibility is needed, but it doesn't show that the EU has to take over the main responsibility. Instead of taking over responsibility for the loss and damage the EU and other countries in the Global North have caused the Global South, the EU is asking the AU to take partial responsibility, even though the AU is already suffering from the consequences of the EU's behaviour. This is not an equal approach to justice. Justice means cooperation

on eye-level and taking over responsibilities for the damages caused by the polluter.

In October 2020, the heads of state from 55 AU nations and 27 EU nations and their delegations were supposed to gather at the summit in Brussels. The plan was to replace the Cotonou Agreement, which regulates economic relations between the EU and more than 70 countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific region. This agreement expired in December 2020 (already postponed from February 2020). After a long break in discussion, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 28-members of the European Union and the 79-members of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) resumed negotiations for a new agreement in June.

How can we improve our relationship and work on an equal level? Math is easy, you need two for dialogue. Many voices say that the African Union has failed to overcome the dependency syndrome and was not able to come up with a coherent cooperation strategy. Why is there so much silence? African civil society activists say that the AU-EU relationship has long been unequal and dysfunctional, with the EU dictating the terms on trade, economic relations and migration, amongst other issues.

Yet despite their criticisms of the EU, many African activists say that the AU has failed to punch its weight and be assertive when dealing with Brussels. "Our governments in the AU showed so much silence it was deafening," adds Lungisa Huna, Director of the Rural Women's Assembly. "They've not had much to say. Many of the issues are structural issues.

To get a better insight on this issue and to think about possibilities of the future African-European cooperation, the non-governmental organisation (NGO) VENRO has launched a recommendation positioning paper. The document was urging Germany, which took over the EU presidency from July 2020, to prioritise health, the participation of all generations, climate justice, peaceful societies, fair economic and trade relations and fair digitalisation in the new partnership. A deeper partnership has to be more than a process between governments. It must be built on human relationships, and enable dialogue and participation of civil society, decision-makers and stakeholders. It should focus on the realities of life and the well-being of people.

VENRO also launched a survey which proved that more than two-thirds of civil society organisations from Africa and Europe believe that cooperation between the two continents is not ideal or not working at all. So it's just obvious that the activist and NGO sector is not satisfied and happy with the state of things.

We need more dialogue

Yes we do, not just proposals written mostly by one side. Seems like NGO's and activists are able to do so and discussion is ongoing. Activists gathered ideas during the Africa-Europe Civil Society Hybrid Conference 2020 organised by VENRO in October.

Here we are getting back to our young people connected by the Naturefriends movement. We all follow this situation and we are concerned as well. We know our cooperation is important too. Our voices can be and are heard. We can work together on the demands and ideas we have. That was the plan of this project.

We need to frame climate change around intergenerational climate justice

Why is climate justice important to us? And why is it even more important when we talk about Europe and Africa? When we talk about climate change we hear about numbers, industry, pollution, weather pattern changes or decreasing crops. Is that enough? No. Climate justice is also about humans. It's about solidarity with others. Knowing more about this can only enrich our holistic view on climate change.

Stories of real people help us to go beyond an abstract picture. Using a personal level can really help with the educational process and motivating young people. We are aware that it is extremely important that we try to understand each other. That we cooperate and are willing to hear the other side.

We believe that we, young people, should be heard as well. Therefore even in this project, we decided to do something to improve our cooperation and also how we can affect the cooperation between world leaders.

We will try to bring you closer to our intentions and also tell you more about ourselves in the next chapters.

We need to raise our voices at COP 26 and COYs

The UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP) is the main event when it comes to decisions related to climate change. The most important agreement was the Paris Agreement which was reached by the parties in 2015.

To reach the Paris Agreement, the UN Sustainable Development Goals need to be reached.

What has this to do with young people and NGO involvement?

Actually, a lot, as the young people can discuss with politicians and stakeholders at the COPs and share their demands, wishes and desires with them. Civil society organisations and NGOs will get the chance to observe the negotiations and influence the politicians. Together with young people from all over the world they will discuss the different opinions on the topic and common solutions.

So far so good, but what is the COY?

The COY is the Conference of Youth. Basically it is a small COP exclusively for young people, where common visions and demands are negotiated. The outcomes will be presented by an umbrella organisation called YOUNGO during the negotiations at the COPs. The COYs usually take place right before the COPs and are a great platform for exchange and discussion. Due to the COVID-19 situation in 2020 both events were cancelled. For the COY, an online alternative is planned for spring 2021. The COP is postponed to November 2021.

What does all of this have to do with this project?

Pretty easy, the developed demands will be taken to the COP/COY and represented by the participants of the groups. Through International Young Naturefriends, some of the participants are already part of the organising team towards the COY in spring 2021 and are eager to develop a common strategy, that is based on the demands from this project together with more young people for the COP 26 in Glasgow in November 2021.

Support

We are thankful that this project could happen because of the support of VENRO and their project „EU Presidency Projekt 2020-2022 – Towards an open, fair and sustainable Europe in the world“ which was funded by the European Union and implemented by the project partners – the Portuguese Non-Governmental Development Organisations Platform (Plataforma Portuguesa das ONGD) the Slovenian NGO Platform for Development, Global Education and Humanitarian Aid (SLOGA), and the European NGO confederation of relief and development (CONCORD).

VENRO is the umbrella organisation of development and humanitarian aid non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Germany. We have been consulting our project with VENRO from the beginning. We also met online with Elisa de Siqueira, a Policy Advisor on Global Justice and Sustainable Development, and Daniel Wegner, who is a Policy Advisor on Africa, Migration in VENRO. They introduced us better to their work and mission.



Many of VENRO's activities focus on European-African relations and cooperation. They released a policy paper for a fair partnership between Africa and Europe that is connected to civil society recommendations for Germany's 2020 EU Council presidency. On this occasion, they also organised an Africa-Europe Civil Society Hybrid Conference. Some of our participants from Benin, Senegal and Germany happily joined this conference as well.

More informations about VENRO: www.venro.org



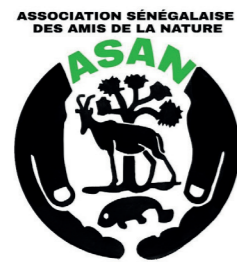
Who we really are

Naturfreundejugend Deutschlands



Naturfreundejugend Deutschlands (NFJD) has always been committed to the democratisation of all areas of life. NFJD wants to overcome capitalism and its social and ecological contradictions and strives for socialist democracy in the sense of a humanistic, solidary, free and democratic social order. Its ideals and visions can only be realised in a diverse society that has overcome national boundaries and views. Intercultural dialogue, international solidarity and respect are therefore core principles of its work. The core areas of activity of NFJD are: solidarity, sustainability, democracy and participation, education, experience and fun.

ASAN



Following the recurrent droughts which hit the Sahel regions in the 1970s, there was an urgent need to save and restore the destroyed fauna and flora. It is in this context that committed volunteers gathered in December 1983 to found the first organisation in Africa entirely dedicated to nature protection, ASSOCIATION SÉNÉGALAISE DES AMIS DE LA NATURE (ASAN).

It is a non-profit organisation that gathers men and women with no distinction of race, gender or religion. ASAN is represented in all the regions of Senegal and the majority of the members are active in schools and universities. ASAN aims at protecting and restoring the environment, ending poverty through good management of natural resources, promoting sustainable tourism and fighting against climate change. ASAN achieves these missions through a participative approach and direct collaboration with the communities.

CREDI-ONG



CREDI-ONG is a non-profit organisation in Benin, C-Member of NFI and working for a greener and bluer world, where humans live decently and in harmony with nature. Our mission is to contribute to the emergence of a generation of world citizens able to propose and implement sustainable local solutions for a human development respectful of humankind and nature. The main fields of activism by CREDI-ONG are sustainable agriculture, environmental protection and global citizenship education. Additionally to that, CREDI-ONG is focusing on intercultural exchanges with other countries from the Global South or Global North. All activities are based on the values of autonomy, commitment, humanism, sobriety and solidarity.

International Young Naturefriends



International Young Naturefriends (IYNF) is an international organisation, which brings together young Naturefriends and their organisations from across Europe. IYNF was established in 1975 and currently has 17 member organisations and 12 partner organisations thus gathering more than 120.000 young members in more than one thousand local groups.

The core role of IYNF is to facilitate the cooperation between its member and partner organisations and individual members by creating links, organising meetings, providing direct support and promoting nature-friendly activities all over Europe. The working methods are based on non-formal, experiential, outdoor and intercultural education. IYNF is a value-based organisation representing its members at the European level. IYNF aims to carry out its values of respect, equality, solidarity, sustainability and love and care for nature to the European political stakeholders.

Let's get started: Workshops 



Let's get started!

Once we had a complete project team, nothing was stopping us from our cooperation. We had to come up with a plan, therefore we met weekly online to discuss our ideas together. When members of your team are thousands of kilometers apart, you have to adjust your working style to be efficient. Nowadays it is not a problem to use online communication platforms that make it pretty easy.

What can make your work easier:

- ✦ Shared online documents (Google docs)
- ✦ Shared online drive for your data (Google drive, Dropbox)
- ✦ Communicating via online messenger groups (Whatsapp, Telegram)
- ✦ Use online meeting scheduling tools (Doodle)
- ✦ Meet in video conferences (Zoom)

What we discussed during our planning meetings:

- ✦ Needs, wishes and expectations
- ✦ Task division
- ✦ Content matters between supervisors
- ✦ Financial matters and budget
- ✦ Logistics (travel of participants, venues, materials needed for workshops)
- ✦ Methods and workshop expectations
- ✦ GDPR - data protection regulation connected to participants attending workshops
- ✦ Workshop guests
- ✦ Recording of outcomes and preparing the evaluation



Workshops in three different countries

After many fruitful planning sessions, the project was ready to kick off with its first three workshops. Our talented and motivated trainers developed workshops together, based on non-formal education methods and with a focus on youth participation. International Young Naturefriends were very happy to support this process with their rich experience in using non-formal education methods for their international activities.

We were fortunate enough to be able to meet physically and spend some days together in a great and inspiring atmosphere. So what did it exactly look like?



Young people met in three different countries and each workshop had its own approach and style. The topics and goals were definitely the same, though. They discussed and developed demands and wishes regarding climate justice and the EU-AU Strategy. They also had a chance to meet with politicians and stakeholders to discuss these matters. We were lucky to have for example the former ministry of environments or recent MEP joining us. After this, each group just naturally continued working on their proposed demands and goals.

During the workshops, we also connected online with the other groups so our participants were aware of this "connection" and we could discuss our experiences from previous days together. This was really nice and also a great opportunity to outline what will be coming next when we will all meet during an online conference. The following part after the workshops gave these young people aged 18 to 27 a chance to learn more about the SDGs, the Joint EU-AU Strategy and the specific topic of global, climate and intergenerational justice.

However, let's not get too far ahead of ourselves. Let's talk more about our workshops and what we did. We will tell you more about our groups in each country and we also handpicked a few examples of our favorite methods we used during the workshops.

Our goals

After a discussion between all three partners, we had clear goals we would love to achieve as a group. What we saw as the base, not just for the start of our workshops but also for humanity, is awareness of climate justice in general. Only from this point we can move forward and address this issue.

Another important goal for our group was to set up a successful international cooperation. If we show others that it is possible, they may do the same. For us as Naturefriends it is also important to cooperate with people from different generations. Therefore this was another goal of our project and has been a long term goal for our movement too.

Since our project was focusing on the AU-EU joint strategy and policy-making process, we also shared our opinions on this or joined conferences that can help us get a better understanding of these matters.

Setting up these goals leads us to the main and fundamental goal, that is how we can build a dialogue between young people, politicians, stakeholders and decision-makers. Therefore, we aimed to gain knowledge on how to advocate for our demands towards a sustainable and just world.

In our project we focused on these major goals:

- ✦ Gaining knowledge and an understanding of the current state of affairs in the development of the new joint EU-Africa strategy and the European policy-making process
- ✦ Engaging young people to take action, both in individually and politically, to help reduce social and climate injustices
- ✦ Raising demands towards stakeholders and decision-makers regarding climate justice
- ✦ Inducing a synergy of action between young naturefriends from Germany, Senegal and Benin in order to impact international policies for social and climatic justice



Workshop in Senegal

Naturefriends from Senegal will tell us more about what they create together and share their own perspective. They met in the Naturefriends House in Dakar.

Our Group

The Senegalese group was composed mainly of students aged in the interval of 20-28. They study different fields including forestry, agriculture, horticulture, economy, breeding, communication and culture. They have a certain knowledge of climate related issues, being part of Naturefriends Senegal. They come also from diverse regions in Senegal, from the north, south, west... They will serve as relays to their different communities.

Results of the Workshops

The workshop was successful. Participants were very engaging. We discussed many issues that we want to share with fellow participants from Germany and Benin. We have some recommendations and suggestions that we'll take to the conference in October. And we expect to have a larger view on some of our ideas. Participants were also very motivated to accentuate their fight for climate justice after the workshops. They feel empowered and are ready to take more concrete and bigger actions.

Our wish for the future

We believe that organising climate strikes is a good start. For the future we wish for more lobbying and work with municipalities. We would like to continue the legacy by observing our surroundings and promoting a green economy and planting more trees. All this should be supported by strengthening cooperation within the Naturefriends movement.



Trainers



member and relationship affairs in charge of ASAN UGB, the local branch of ASAN in Gaston Berger University.

Actually, she is the supervisor from Senegalese nature-friend group of the Youth perspective on climate justice in the EU-AU relations project. President of a youth platform for peace building in Senegal, she is also a peace activist.



Mamadou Sylla is an environmental activist from Senegal and a member of ASAN, a non-government organisation working on the protection of nature and the promotion of sustainable tourism. Founding member and President of Naturefriends UGB in 2019, the local branch of ASAN in Gaston Berger University. SDG Coordinator for UN SDSN Youth sdg students program at UGB in 2020.

Currently he has been working on his M.A thesis on African Diasporic Literature and he also works as a free-lance translator and interpreter in his free time.

Aissatou Ndiaye is an environmental and a feminist activist from Senegal. Leader of the Senegalese young nature friends group during the exchange between Germany and Senegal in 2017 and 2019, Aissatou Layla is a founding

Mamadou Sylla is an environmental activist from Senegal and a member of ASAN, a non-government organisation working on the protection of nature and the promotion of sustainable tourism. Founding member and Presi-

Sketch/Role Play

Your Group

There's no limit, no particular number for participants; characters can be two, three or more, depending on your scene, but you may need a public to perform your play. In internal seminars or limited group training, some participants can be characters and others the public, and in the end, you draw lessons together from the play. In large activities, that involve many people, you and your organisation can choose to perform a play to raise awareness of the people that take part in the activity. You might as well want to record the performance to post on social media.

Timing and logistics

The shorter your play is, the better. It is called a sketch because it is a very short play. Count to 5-7 minutes or maximum 12 minutes for the whole play. The decor is accessory. But it can be good to be as close to reality. Don't hesitate to find clothes that fit the characters and decor the place in the way it would look in reality.

What you need:

A message and a script

If you are a fan of plays, you have imagination and a bit of talent in acting (or not), then you might want to use these abilities for the issues that matter to you.

This method consists of playing a sketch with specific goals, where participants are the characters. It is efficient especially for a young public, because it combines teaching and fun and the participants themselves are the main actors. Moreover, it helps display the cultural context of your message. In Senegal, this method is very popular, and members of ASAN have for many times either used it or attended some events where it has been used.

Do you want to promote sustainable individual behaviors? Or warn on the consequences of deforestation? It is up to you. In any case, you need from the beginning to lead your imagination to a specific goal and adapt your script to your purpose.



Steps: Preparation

It is very important to prepare your team. You can prepare the script in advance as a team or as a trainer, you can help participants to form a team and give them up to 10 minutes to imagine something. In the last case, the trainer should explain the activity and method to the participants. It is also important to prepare your speeches if you don't feel comfortable with improvisation

Performance

When you have all the things you need set, it is then time to be on stage. During the performance, actors should be fully in the body of the characters. Be relaxed, it is fun.

Conclusion

In the end, as a group it is important to draw conclusions and fix the knowledge acquired. Prepare some questions to ask to the public, give participants in the play a small time to explain their role, if necessary. Or even divide the group into small groups with specific questions related to the activity and the message they draw from it.

Example

Three participants are in the body of people who directly suffered from the consequences of climate change: Awa, a doctor; Pappy Demba, a retired fisherman who witnessed the past and the present; and a farmer.

Workshop in Germany

Our friends from Germany will tell us more about what they did and share their own perspective. They met in the Naturefriends house in Hannover.

Our group

Our target group were young people between the ages of 16 and 27 who are interested in the topic of climate change and climate justice, mainly but not exclusively from the Naturefriends movement in Germany. We had participants from different socioeconomic backgrounds and which are in different phases of their life, from volunteers and students to people in work relations. Additionally, we had people with different and special needs in the group. All these various factors were enriching the working process and the discussions by bringing in different perspectives and ideas.

Results of our workshop

The main outcome of the workshop are the demands developed by the participants of the workshop. These demands were developed in a common process and written together by the participants towards combating climate injustice. The following main headlines and topics are mentioned in the demands:

- ✦ Solidarity and cooperation on eye-level instead of neo-colonialism
- ✦ Promoting and developing a fair and effective Climate Action
- ✦ Pushing the process of a social-ecological transformation
- ✦ For a human asylum policy & migration
- ✦ For just economics & trade
- ✦ Strong consideration of social aspects to combat climate change

Our wish for the future

Our wish is that the international cooperation and solidarity within the Naturefriends movement continues for another 125 years and that we have a negative emission balance by that time and real cooperation on eye-level between the AU and EU. When it comes to the participants we have the wish that they continue fighting for their demands and become change-makers.

As young people we are the future, so we have to be the change and start it together, we have to go into an intergenerational dialogue and fight for a social-ecological transformation together. We are full of hope that these young people will be part of the change and will also be able to act as multipliers to engage more people to become active citizens for a more sustainable and just society.

Trainers



Sina Franz is the main project supervisor for the German section Naturfreundejugend Deutschlands (NFJD). As president of NFJD and Secretary General of the International Young Naturefriends (IYNF), she has a lot of experience in the organisation and realization of events of all kinds related to youth work. Sina likes to work on topics like diversity, democratic values, society, equality, racism and sustainability. She studied 'social work' and is active in the field of international youth work.



Janina Körber is the second supervisor of the German group taking care of some specific organisational tasks. Being active in the local Bavarian section of the NFJD, she is familiar with the management of volunteers, public relations tasks and projects concerning political youth participation, environment education and actions against right wing extremism. Janina studies 'media and communication' in Passau.



Social hiking

Your group

The ideal group size is between 5 and 25 in our opinion but as the method is flexible and can be adjusted, it is also possible with more people. We wouldn't recommend less than five people for a fruitful discussion.

Timing

There is no time limit for this method as there are even social hikes that vary between 15 min and 7 days.

What you need:

No additional material is needed

The chosen method combines physical activity with gaining knowledge and enriching discussions. It is proven that physical activities help to stimulate thinking. Additionally, social hiking is a traditional method of the Naturefriends movement. Back then, when mainly people from the worker's movement were part of the Naturefriends, they went on a hike to the huts they built together and on the way they discussed on how to achieve more rights for people from the worker's movement. It worked pretty well and even today we love to use the method, and even though our topics are different, we still like to combine being in nature with hiking and discussing important topics.

Especially for trainings that are mainly inside, this method can bring a change of perspectives into the training course. A nice side effect is that the participants will get to know the surroundings of the place of activity. The method can be used in all stages of the workshop.

Steps:

- ✦ Think about the goal of your social hike
- ✦ Think about possible questions and topics for the way to encourage the participants to talk to each other

Examples:

What does climate change mean to you? When did you first hear about the topic? What is your most concern about climate injustice?

- ✦ Plan a route that is suitable for the time you have planned for the activity (don't forget that groups are usually slower than a single person).
- ✦ Plan stops to talk about the outcomes of the small discussions
- ✦ Encourage the participants to change the partners (or come up with some games at the stop so that they have to change the partner)
- ✦ At the end of the route try to make a summary of the different outcomes. You can ask the participants to write something down on sticky-notes or let them draw a picture or have a prepared flip-chart where they can write the outcomes down.
- ✦ Ask the participants for feedback

P.S Energisers are a great benefit if your participants lose motivation :)



Dream journey

Self-reflection: My impact on climate change

Your group

For this method, a group of 3 to 25 people is perfect. In case you don't want to have an open discussion afterwards, because you want the participants to share their experiences in small groups, you can include even more people into the dream journey.

Timing

Schedule about 15-20 minutes for the method and choose a quiet and warm room, where you can make a circle of chairs. You should play some calm, quiet meditation sounds. Apart from that, you should think of a topic and a "way" you want to go on your dream journey.

What you need:

device for playing music (appropriate for the room size, so that everybody can hear it)

The dream journey can be used as a starter into a topic. It is used to make people concentrate on their very own view on a topic before sharing their opinions in the following method, for example an open discussion. Giving time for self-reflection, the method opens space to very individualistic aspects of the topic. The dream journey is a rather chilling, soft method and stimulates creativity by evoking individual mental visualisations of given impulses.

Steps:

Announce the method in a calm mood and invite the participants to sit in a chair circle. If they want, they can close their eyes and adopt a comfortable sitting posture. Introduce them to the topic you want to explore on their very own mental dream journey. Let them think about it for some seconds before you give them the first impulse in order to evoke visualizations in their heads. As an example, for reflecting about "My impact on climate change" it is useful to make them go through a typical day.

Speak slowly and calm. Make them think of their everyday life routines, which products they use and what they consume. Start with the ringing alarm in the morning and take them to the very end, until they go to bed. Leave some "individual space" for activities during the day like going to school / to work and free time. When you are at the end, invite them to mentally come back to reality and slowly turn the music off. Give them some minutes to "arrive", before you make an evaluation, for example in groups of two or in an open discussion, where they exchange aspects about the impact of their everyday life.

This method can be supplemented by further steps, such as drawing the dream journey or setting concrete first steps for change.



Workshop in Benin

CREDI-ONG works with young people on environmental protection and resilience to the effects of climate change in the Sitatunga Valley. More than 7500 young people have been impacted since 2005.

Through the clubs „Connaître et Protéger la Nature" (CPN) (Knowing and Protecting Nature) is increased awareness of young people of SDGs and global citizenship.

Organising a seminar on climate justice is one more tool for us to contribute to the emergence of a youth committed and active for the environment and climate. It is an opportunity to federate the efforts of three countries to raise awareness among young people about the impacts of international policies on climate and their future.

It is important to act on the basis of these young people who constitute the operational arm and the driving force of any successful change for a flourishing environment.

Our group

The target group for this project is young people in the 18-25 age group. These are young people whose civic commitment is made known through their various actions to combat the effects of climate change or through their studies in connection with the environment, agriculture, etc. For some of them, they have already been involved in programs to fight climate change. But for others and the majority, SDGs are not yet understood and, above all, the issue of climate justice seems to be a new theme.

Results of our workshop

- ✿ Eleven young Beninese are committed and strengthened for climate and social justice in the world.
- ✿ Young people from Benin, Germany and Senegal worked together for climate and social justice in the world.
- ✿ Official demands of the young Beninese were written to political decision-makers in Benin and around the world.

Our wish for the future

In the future, we hope to develop with young Nature-friends from Senegal and Germany more practical activities in each of the countries and to leave traces of a youth ready and committed to change. We also wish to have an opportunity to participate in the next COP to share our thoughts in order to hopefully influence international policies.

Trainers:



Martial K. KOUDERIN is an alumni and tutor of the GLEN programme, Executive Director of CREDI-ONG. He is an agricultural engineer and very passionate about the environment.



Modeste HODONOU is a tutor in the GLEN programme, former teacher, youth environmental clubs coordinator and CREDI-ONG Education and Communication Officer. He is a biologist and very committed to global citizenship issues.



The World Map

Your group

For this game the ideal group size is between 10 and 30 people. It is also possible to have more people but then you might need more time. We wouldn't recommend a group below 10 participants to enable a fruitful and controversial discussion with different opinions.

Timing:

Duration is between 30 and 45 minutes.

What you need:

- Large space for the world map
- Chairs for the distribution of wealth
- Participants for the population
- Statistical documents on GDP, natural resources, industrial development, demographics and gas emissions by continent for verification purposes.

It is a method in which the facilitator helps participants to identify the inequalities and injustices that characterise our world in order to better reflect on approaches for solutions for social and climate justice.

Steps:

- ✦ A graphic reproduction of the world map
- ✦ Encouraging participants to position themselves on the map based on their knowledge of population distribution, statistics on the distribution of economic wealth in the world, the availability of natural re-

sources, industrial development, the level of greenhouse gas emissions, etc.

- ✦ Simulating the opinions of the inhabitants at the level of each continent and then proposing solutions for climate and social justice.



Working on common demands

In the workshops, each group created demands regarding climate justice and the EU-AU cooperation which they want to address towards politicians.

Although the groups worked separately, many demands were the same. All of them demand a more just partnership between AU and the EU, and to have better opportunities for young people to connect and to be part of the discussions.

Fundamental to these demands is compliance with human rights which provide the basis for a just and sustainable future. Additionally, education and raising awareness was a big issue in all groups as a lack of

climate justice education was identified. And they all agreed, that there is too much talking and too less action. The politics need to do more! So despite all the differences in the life of these young people, they shared the same vision and understanding!

Young people are able to create common demands and a vision. They can act as role models for politicians on how to shape a collaboration based on equality and meeting on eye-level.

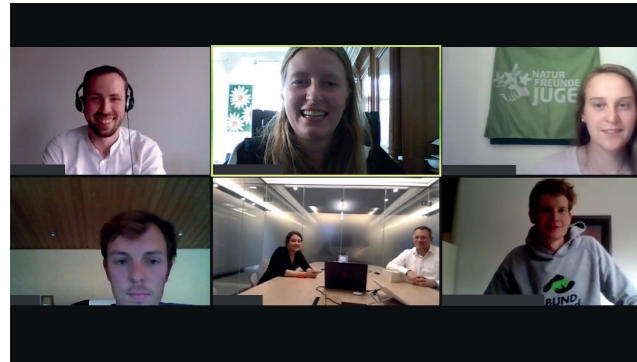


Meeting with politicians

After creating demands in the workshops and preparing for discussions we come to the next step: meeting and discussing with politicians.

Meeting with Delara Burkhardt and Tiemo Wölken

On September 16 we met with the young Members of the European Parliament MEPs Delara Burkhardt and Tiemo Wölken (both Social Democrats) in a Zoom session. There were also participants from other environmental NGOs.



Delara Burkhardt

Born in Kiel, Germany, she is one of the youngest MEPs at 28 years of age and is committed to the interests of young people in the EU. As a member of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI), she is very active and observes planned environmental initiatives critically in order to make them even more effective. At the moment Delara is campaigning for a social supply chain law and guidelines for deforestation-free products.

Tiemo Wölken

Apart from the ENVIE committee, Tiemo is also a member of the Legal Committee (JURI). The 35-year-old lawyer is particularly committed to a sustainable climate policy and European legal standards. One focus of his work is especially on digital policy and a more green industry. Tiemo lives in Osnabrück.

The main objective was to discuss the draft for a new EU-wide climate law that was being discussed a lot at the time. We thought about ways to persuade especially conservative parliamentarians to support a 65% reduction of CO₂ emissions by 2030, a goal demanded by a broad alliance of environmental organisations. Furthermore, we discussed national CO₂ budgets, sanctions and ways to support the admission of refugees from Moria.

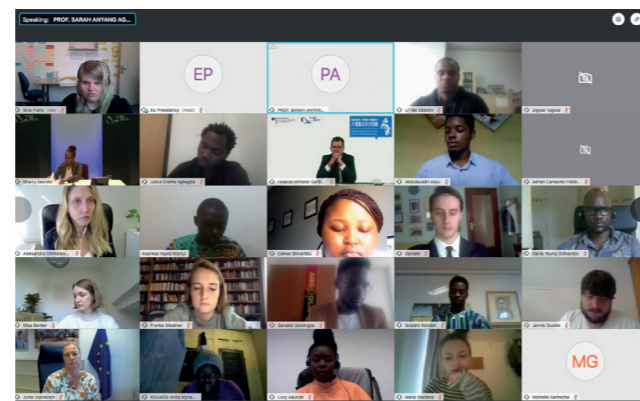
Don't let up now! - That was the MEP's main message. Delara and Tiemo appealed for more and constant pressure coming from the environmental organisations in

order to back their demands in the parliament from the side of the NGO sector. They advised us to repeatedly start actions and especially to put their climate critical colleagues in parliament on the spot. The MEPs made concrete proposals on how to address them with campaigns, for example with postcard actions or Twitter messages.

The two have clearly spoken out in favour of a 65% reduction, EU-wide CO₂ budgets and the rescue of the Moria refugees. They also informed us that the parliament is making sure that the new climate law is sanctionable and democratically verifiable on a regular basis. In the end, Delara and Tiemo proposed to stay in contact in order to exchange information about ongoing parliamentary discussions faster, so that environmental NGOs don't always get to know about upcoming disastrous decisions just before they happen.

AU-EU-Youth Forum

On 28/29 September the AU-EU Youth Forum took place. A platform for young people from the AU and EU to discuss a more youth friendly, participative, just and sustainable future. Young people from the three groups involved in this project took part in this forum to discuss and develop recommendations towards the German EU presidency. One of our supervisors was also selected as a rapporteur for the group and presented the outcomes together with other young people to parts of the EU and German government.



The outcomes of the workshop "Climate and Renewable Energy", that many of our participants plus approximately 30 other young people joined, were:

- ✿ Greener skills for a sustainable future; including ecosystems that will allow green tech systems
- ✿ Encourage exchange programs for learning purposes
- ✿ Increase institutional support for youth led green projects to give access to funding and project management

Meeting with Dr. Lamine Ba and Pr. Paul Ndiaye

We had the chance to meet two important voices in the political and scientific landscape of Senegal: Dr. Lamine Ba and Pr. Paul Ndiaye

Dr. Lamine Ba

Dr. Lamine Ba studied in Germany and earned a PhD in political science. He has exercised many leadership positions in the political sphere in Senegal. For instance, he was the Minister of the Environment in 2000 after the first democratic alternation in Senegal. Then, he occupied another position as Minister of international cooperation and sustainable development.

As an expert in international cooperation and regarding his former positions, Dr Lamine Ba was a perfect fit for our discussion on our perspective on climate justice and to a larger extent the state of current youth environmental activism. One other important point worth noting is that as Minister of the Environment, Dr. Lamine Ba defended in 2001 the current code of environment in use in Senegal. The code of the environment is a set of laws, official decisions that form the legal basis for a sustainable management of the environment.

Pr. Paul Ndiaye

Pr. Paul Ndiaye is a Geographer, Professor and Researcher at Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar. He has a huge experience of teaching and research as he has been Professor since 1981. He is very much requested by different NGOs and administrations in the govern-

ment as a consultant for questions related to nature conservation, development and evaluation of projects that are related to environment and sustainable development. He has for instance worked with the Ministry of Family, Children and Women's affairs. He also conducted numerous projects on parks and natural reserves in Senegal.

From this perspective he has written recommendations for the transportation of living animals. This particular point came often during the discussion because a few weeks before it a public debate arose on the topic. On a side note, Paul Ndiaye was very happy joining us at our naturefriends house, he considers as home.

Our discussion with politicians evolved around the current situation of nature protection in Senegal, EU-AU cooperation and the role and place of countries from the south in global negotiations. In the end, we commonly agreed on the necessity to adapt Senegalese's code of environment to our current context and to accentuate our actions for our demands to prevail.

For Dr. Lamine Ba, we should shout our anger out on the streets by organising pacific strikes. Because, our demands are as important as other social demands and we're in a state of emergency. Both Pr. Paul Ndiaye and Dr. Lamine Ba encouraged youth involvement in the political sphere and our cooperation with other youth from other countries.





Let's share our ideas:
Online Conference and Summit

Let's share our ideas: 3 countries + 3 stories - Online Conference

October 2020 was the time when all three groups had a chance to meet online. We were really excited to see all the faces of the participants that stand behind the ideas and all the effort they put into working together during the workshops held in their respective countries.

Challenges of online events

Organising the conference was a common effort. Gathering online has its specific challenges and can be even more so for "first-timers". An important part of our conference were the workshops, held by supervisors from Benin, Germany and Senegal. Organising workshops online has its pros and cons. You can reach a bigger and more diverse audience. Well, not going to lie, it can also be challenging to keep their attention.

Online space is missing an important workshop element: person presence! One would not argue that being in a circle, and being in one room can boost us with energy that can be very special and beneficial for the creative process and cooperation. Online courses are then just naturally calling for a bit of a different approach. Trainers need to be pretty flexible and creative to be able to come up with interactive methods and to create a space that leads to an inspirational and dynamic environment for discussion and cooperation.

You will find some methods and tools on how to do that later in the publication where we focus on online tools you can use for your events.

Internet connection

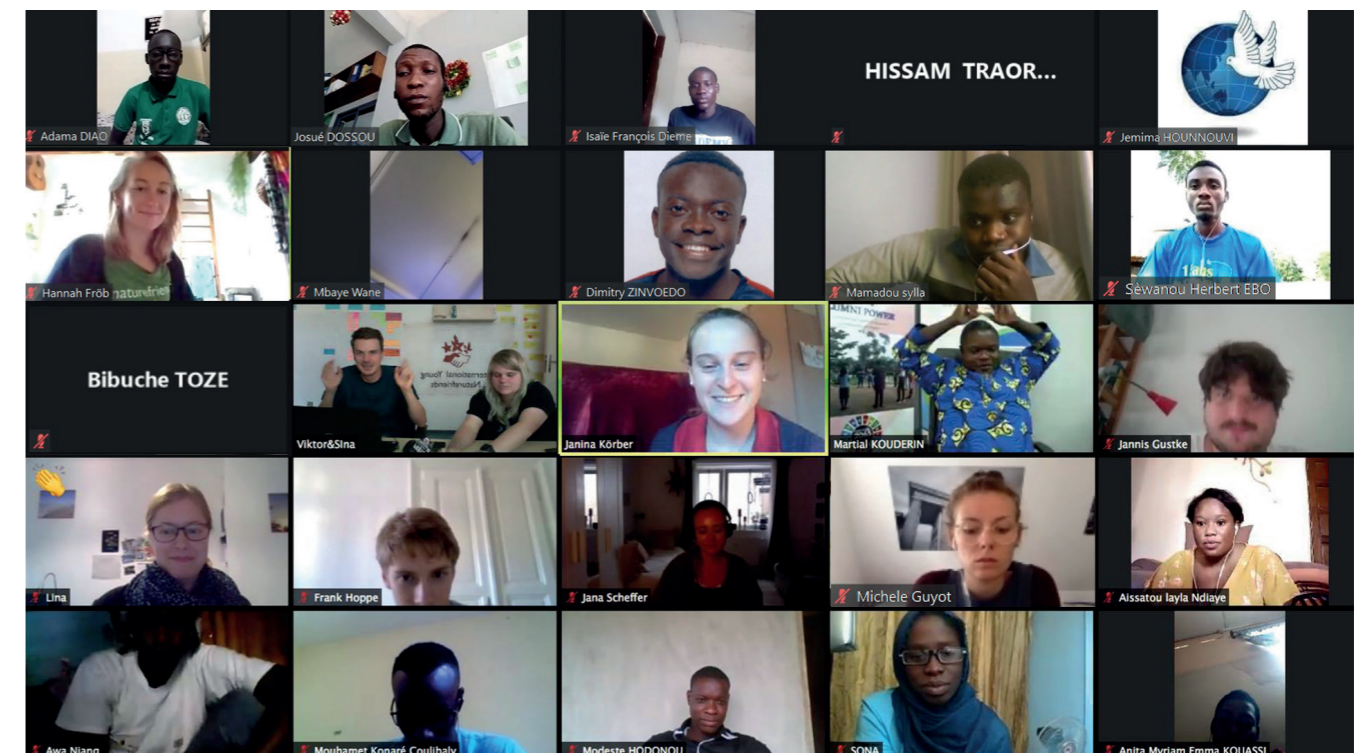
As a trainer and facilitator of any online session, it's also good to be prepared to address internet connection issues. This can be frustrating for both sides and unfortunately can affect how inclusive your session is. Especially participants from some African countries dealt with this problem. This is a big challenge for holding an inclusive online event. Our group and our supervisors were looking for possible solutions.

We tried to support some participants with mobile internet data packages or gather more of them at the spots with better internet connections. Even trying our best, we were still not able to avoid some technical issues connected to this. We see this as a general task for many of us. Well, we can only get better by time and we'll do everything we can to create an environment that would be equally welcoming everyone.

Language barriers

For some of us, it was a new situation and some of us had more experience with holding online events. As we had continued to meet online each week and we kept planning everything together, we were also able to learn from each other and support each other. This also refers to the language, since we were a group consisting of people speaking many languages.

To overcome these language barriers we tried to translate and hold a meeting that is open for everyone despite the language. We chose English and French as



the main languages for our conference, as all participants felt comfortable with at least one of the two languages offered. Just keep in mind, that translation needs time and that you have to consider this while planning the schedule of your meeting.

The conference program

The Conference started with the introduction of the 35 participants and the national Naturefriends organisations. Among other things people talked about what they like to do in their free time and named their favourite dish.

After the introductions, each of the three organisations presented the activities they did to prepare for the online Conference. As mentioned before, each organisation did an in-person workshop at the beginning of September where they talked about Climate Change, defined Climate Justice, and prepared demands for political stakeholders. These demands were presented as well.

The conference also provided two different workshops:

- ✿ How can African and European people deal with climate justice? What kind of actions can we do?
- ✿ Intergenerational equality and climate justice

This happened in separate breakout rooms and the participants had one hour to exchange their views. When the whole group came back together the results of the workshops were presented. The one thing that came up again and again was, that this Conference should not be the end of the cooperation and that more frequent exchange between the countries is wanted.



Conference Workshops

1. How can African and European people deal with climate justice? What kind of actions can we do?

This workshop aimed to discuss our strategies to fight for climate justice as Naturefriends. We shared our local and regional approaches to the issue to see what we do similarly and what we do differently. We exchanged our common activities and discussed our possible future cooperation. We asked ourselves general questions about what actually climate justice means to each of us. This was important, as only after knowing different perspectives, we can think on how to work together to get better results.



We brainstormed on what actions are already in the Naturefriends movement:

- ✿ Tree planting
- ✿ Non-Formal Education
- ✿ Conference about protection of the environment
- ✿ Climate strike Fridays for Future
- ✿ With Funding: Additional paid projects on the topic
- ✿ Without Funding: Medium-Size campaigns
- ✿ Starting at the individual level: consume less and produce less waste (at least definitely us in the Global North here)
- ✿ Raise awareness on the justice aspect of the climate crisis in every context
- ✿ Also offer poor people access to sustainable practices and the advantages connected to them (e.g. energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainably produced healthy food, ...)

So how can we work together in the future?

- ✿ Virtual space to share ideas and to discuss them
- ✿ Online meetings on a regular basis and update each other on important climate-related problems, but also local actions with each other. Then we could support each other in it and raise awareness on problems in our own countries
- ✿ WhatsApp and Radio to raise awareness
- ✿ Senegalese group Facebook page
- ✿ Building a green youth fund to support countries, who are suffering from climate change

2. Intergenerational equality and climate justice

Climate justice is not a topic that just concerns one generation, it is a topic that concerns everyone. We have to work hand in hand and show solidarity with each other to fight against climate change and injustice. Together we focused on an idea on how to work together with different generations on that topic. It is also even a very important task for us as Naturefriends to find ways for cooperation between youth and adults in the movement.

What we discussed:

- ✿ We don't need to make one generation feel guilty, we have to work together, so no generation conflict and blaming.
- ✿ We can try to show new ways. Every generation has to bring something new to the fight for climate justice.
- ✿ Everybody has to take his/her own responsibility
- ✿ We should stop to talk about the ones who are to blame, but to talk about responsibility; focus on the harmony between the generations, not the differences.
- ✿ The younger ones often have problems because they don't know how to address the older ones, so there should be a better dialog and raise awareness on how to use the right words.
- ✿ There are also a lot of older ones who have been active for climate protection all along, they should not be blamed.



All demands on one paper

How to bring different demands together and develop common ones?

This question was a big challenge for the supervisors, too. Together, they developed a concept to work efficiently together with the groups to develop common demands out of all the demands that the groups have presented at the conference. This concept was divided into four different steps:

- ✿ Creating a shared document with all demands (translated) in English
- ✿ Cluster the demands into different groups
- ✿ Giving the participants the chance to comment on the demands and make proposals for common ones
- ✿ Developing the common demands on the basis of the recommendations of the participants and with the guidance of the supervisors together with the groups

The final statements can be found on page 36.

The more the merrier - Summit: Naturefriends for Climate Justice

After our workshops, the discussions with politicians on different levels and the development of concrete demands, we wanted to widen our range. We decided to share and discuss these demands with young Naturefriends from all over the world and to gather concrete actions to reach our common demands.

Therefore we invited young people from all around the world to an online summit that took place on December 13, 2020. Together we created different workshops to involve the other Naturefriends and to work on topics and demands regarding social, political and sustainability issues. As Naturefriends, we stand up for solidarity and a sustainable world. To reach that, we need to raise our voice and to formulate concrete demands towards politicians.

How to organise an international online summit?

Same as with the conference, the summit was held online. In the past few months, many of us have switched more to an online space. Our world is offering us countless possibilities. It can be anything from online courses, conferences, online working groups to just friendly social gatherings. Well, it also can be overwhelming. We all are bombed by so much information every day and also too many opportunities and choices can feel like too much pressure.

Yet, young Naturefriends connected to this project had decided to hold an online summit. Of course, there were some doubts but also a big hope and knowing how great our Naturefriends family is so that we can be successful. Also, we learnt a bit during organising our previous conference so we were more confident about bringing our ideas online to even more people now.

Promotion

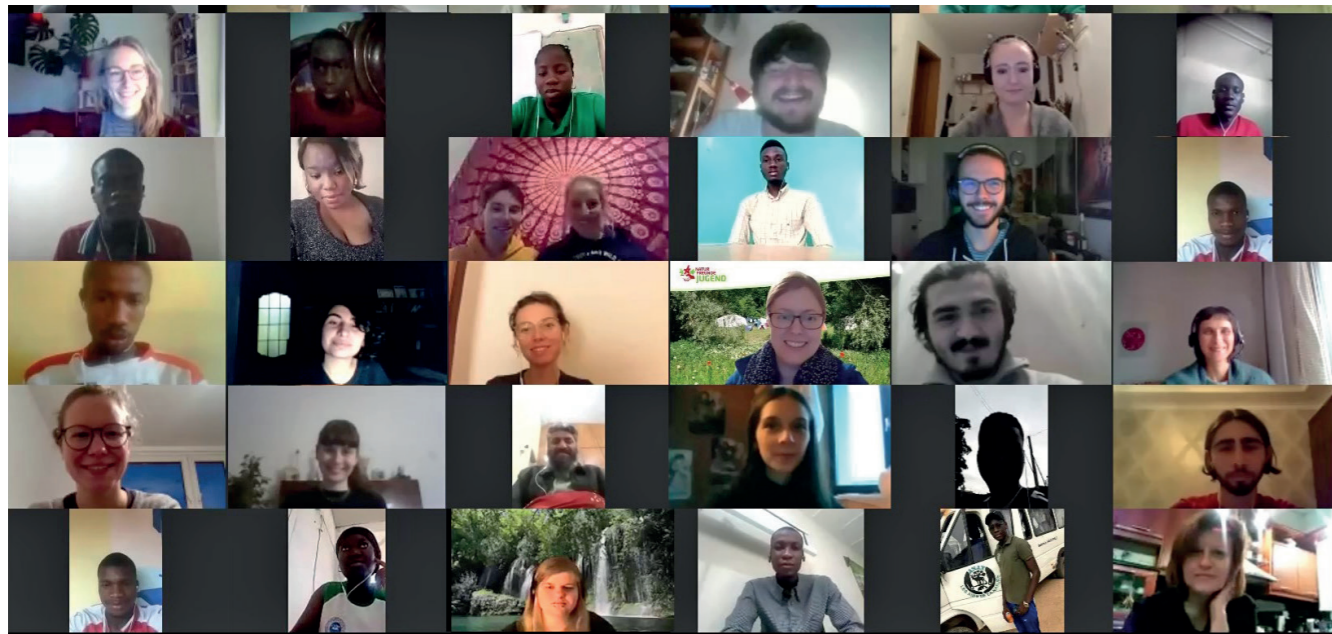
Although the event was aimed mostly to young people from the Naturefriends movement, it was still important to come up with a good promotion strategy. We used the social media channels of all four partners and also sent a personal invitation to secretaries and board members of youth organisations that are members and partners of International Young Naturefriends.

In case you are planning to organise an event with even a bigger reach, you have to consider other options which give you more visibility and attract possible participants. The summit was definitely a bigger event. As we mentioned before, while organising such an event you can deal with such a primary barrier as is the internet connection. It's always good to be prepared for this.

Language

Another thing you should keep in mind is that if you have participants with different language backgrounds, you may need translators. During the previous conference, which was a gathering of our three groups, we were able to support each other with translation. Also, our groups were more forgiving and used to work together and success or fail together. Absence of professional translators and simultaneous translation can affect the pace of your sessions.

Consecutive translation is not always ideal so it's good to do some tricks to make it more dynamic and easier for your participants to follow. Probably the most important tip is to discuss this with your speakers/participants in advance and ask them to formulate their thoughts in a few sentences and then give some space for translation before they continue with another point.



Translators will like you if you take care of this :). The summit was welcoming 70 registered participants and we had to be ready for them. Besides translation, you may be in situations when you may also need a sign language interpreter, which is not the easiest thing to do and especially even harder in online space. Ideally, if you are blessed by volunteers or people around that are able to help with this, you may call yourself lucky. Professional language interpreters are not exactly a cheap service but they are really important. More so if you are dealing with specific topics based on scientific background and so on. Good quality translation is very important for a successful online event.

Online platforms like ZOOM offer features for a variety of audio channels which allow you to do a simultaneous translation. In our case, we had brilliant translators who made the whole summit a better experience. However, we should stress out that this is an issue that we should address together and discuss on EU or AU level with decision-makers, donors and institutions that support youth educational activities. There's a need to consider allocating more funds that could assure that quality and inclusiveness of these events will be improved.

Online tools you can use

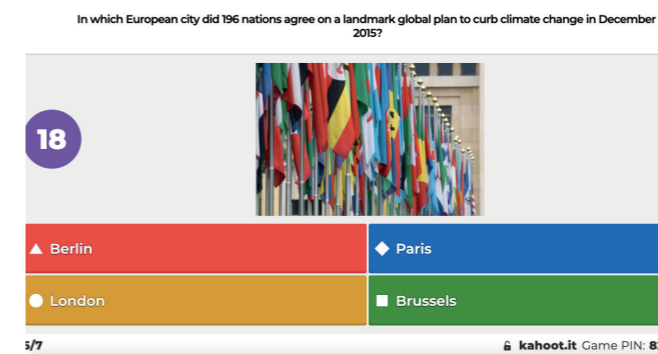
As we mentioned before, the ability to make online events as interactive as possible is an essential task and road to being successful, to get attention from your participants. There are already many tools that can help you to do so. During our events, we used different tools like online quizzes, presentation tools for real-time voting, shared whiteboard and many more.

Zoom breakout rooms

Zoom offers a really useful feature for working in smaller groups. If you are the host of an online event, you can divide your participants into different groups and set up a time limit for their work, discussion or task you assign them too. As a host, you can also send a message to different groups or even join them if they need help.

Kahoot

Kahoot is an online user-generated quiz platform. Here you can create your own quiz and let participants compete via their computer or smartphone. Kahoot is a great way to make dry input more interactive and fun.



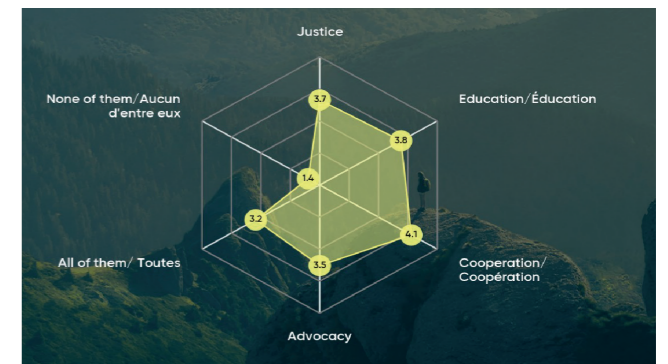
Slido

Slido is an online live Q&A and poll tool that is made for use in presentations.

Mentimeter

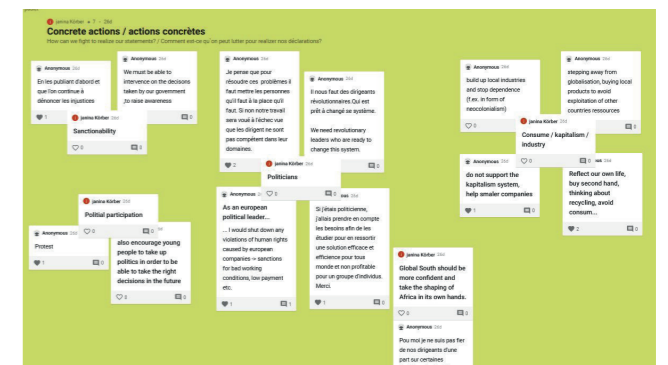
Mentimeter is an online tool for live-feedback. It is very useful in capturing direct audience reactions and presenting it in a visually appealing way.

For example, during our summit we asked our participants to rate the importance of workshop topics based on their personal opinion. They could vote in real time via Mentimeter. As you can see it is a very engaging and visually attractive online tool that you can use in the future too.



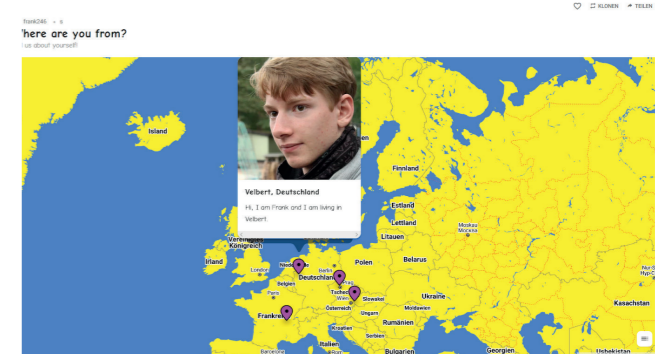
Padlet

Padlet is a virtual pinboard that is great to sort ideas from a group. Padlet offers many different kinds of pinboards which make the tool very flexible.



Interactive maps

One unique feature of Padlet are interactive maps. They are a good tool to introduce each other using pin markers on the map that reveal a short profile of the participant.



The Summit Workshops

The summit provided four different workshops so the participants had a nice variety to choose from according to their interest. We tried to cover all of the important topics and elements that can help us to get a holistic view of climate justice.

We discussed education that is really important for young people and also the Naturefriends movement. International Young Naturefriends has been addressing this topic for a couple of years now. We see a lack of climate change related education in the curriculum and in a formal/conservative education provided by most schools. Unfortunately, they don't really address the climate crisis in their syllabus as they rather look at climate change and related topics through scientific "lens".

Teaching about the crisis should not be to scare young people but it should be inspiring and make them think about how a "just transition" to a non-fossil fuel future can make the world healthier and more equal. As we have mentioned before, we believe that "numbers" and data (no matter how precise and alarming they are) can't motivate for behavioural change as much as thinking how unequally affected some people are already today. A will to understand climate justice and the factors that impact it can lead to a positive change. Education can really help with this goal.

Next to this, we are also aware of advocacy and its importance. These two elements (education and advocacy) are inseparable. If we want to achieve a dialogue on eye level and if we want to discuss our opinions and concerns with decision makers, it is necessary that we understand this correlation. Our chances to convince

them are getting only higher with improved knowledge of the topic. Advocacy work of young people in combination with their passion will set the wheels in motion.

To achieve better results we need to cooperate on an international level. It's obvious that this was one of the main reasons for our project too. In another workshop of the summit, we also addressed this topic. How can we cooperate together? What can we do as Naturefriends in the future? You can learn more about this and also about other workshops in the next few pages.

1. Justice and responsibility

In this workshop, we gathered ideas for concrete actions to create an equal partnership between Africa and Europe, in which every continent takes over its responsibility. We also discussed how the interdependencies between our continents can be respected and how the fight against climate change combines with human rights and the protection of minorities.

The workshop was facilitated by Janina Körber and Aissatou Layla Ndaiye. The Workshop was focusing on gathering ideas for concrete actions for creating an equal partnership between Africa and Europe. Therefore the interdependencies and different responsibilities between the two continents were discussed to combat climate change holistically.

The facilitators of the workshop decided to go with these two main demands to enrich the discussion:

- ✦ We want a partnership on eye level with the same rights, but not the same responsibility for everyone
- ✦ We demand a fight for climate justice, which is in line with human rights.



What we discussed

- ✦ Exploitation of the senegalese fishing areas: the EU has fishing rights there and therefore the senegalese people can't use it and profit from their own fish
- ✦ Exploitation of coltan deposits in the Democratic Republic of Congo under inhumane conditions
- ✦ Post-colonial structures using the example of the currency Franc CFA, which is still produced and administered in France
- ✦ connection between human rights violations and the „violation“ of the nature / resources of the countries concerned

Especially an online brainstorming session helped to ensure the fruitful discussion. In this case we used Padlet that served as a perfect platform for online exchange of ideas.

The main outcomes and actions of this workshop are:

- ✦ Sanction ability for environmental pollution and consequent sanctions for the violation of human rights
- ✦ Enabling political participation through protests and raising awareness towards decision-makers and stakeholders
- ✦ Urging political stakeholders to put climate justice as a priority on their agenda
- ✦ Empowerment of young people from the Global South to take actions on their own and urging countries from the Global North to take over responsibility for their actions

2. Education

In our recommendations, we've raised education as a top priority for achieving climate justice and fighting against climate change. In this workshop we further discussed the necessary changes of paradigm in current educational systems and painted together the educa-

tion we want for our generation and for the coming generations.

The Workshop "Education" held by Mamadou Sylla and Modeste Hodonou mainly addressed the topic of education in relation to climate justice with a focus on the meaning of ethics and its role in education for eco-citizens. For tackling the topic, the previously developed demands were used by the group to have a common starting point for a fruitful discussion.

The facilitators decided to go with the following demands:

- ✦ We advocate for an immediate change of mentality and the encouragement of eco-citizenship by cultivating ethics and advanced environmental education.
- ✦ Invest in non-formal and global citizenship education: We should already prepare the future generations to face global issues by investing in education for sustainability. For sure, the classic education doesn't respond to many of our dilemmas. We should rethink our educational systems.

During the workshop different methods were used to ensure a good online collaboration process. The learning outcomes of this workshop are:

- ✦ Understanding the notion of ethics
- ✦ Looking into our local education systems to understand what needs to be changed
- ✦ Being able to detect unethical decisions for a change in mentality
- ✦ Understanding the notions of non-formal education and global citizenship
- ✦ Proposing concrete changes to make in our educational systems to train eco-citizens and global citizens

The concrete vision for a better education which was developed during the Workshop can be found here:

Main Areas of Change	Changes to Pursue (what do we need to change in these areas?)	Main Activities (what activities must we do to change it?)	Collaboration (who are the people we can work with to make changes)	Barriers (what are potential obstacles to our vision?)
Link with Community	community centered education	open air activities, use non-formal methods	community, NGOs...	not willing to explore new ideas...
Content	Advocate sustainability future generations	Promote Master's degrees that are linked to biodiversity Theory and practice in high schools organise practicing activities debates	Associations, clubs, NGO,students, actors of the education	individual interest, think global rather than individual
	focus on children	Games, train teachers	experts, teachers,schools, NGOs,Government,international institutions for finance	lack of will, individualism, politics who doesn't think about future
economics	teach capitalism in European schools, nothing on sustainable economics	change content, focus on long term sustainable economics, welfare economics	companies who are applying this welfare economic system	companies making profits of capitalism

3. Cooperation and Partnerships

We need to reinvent the model of cooperation and our forms of partnership by taking into account the challenges of our time regarding climate issues. We all want to move easily around the world and, above all, to break down borders for the mobility of our generation. But what are the results of a mobility without borders regarding the climate? How can we continue to cooperate despite the distances that separate us while at the same time minimizing our climate footprints? These are some of the questions that our workshop tried to discuss in order to highlight some of the contradictions that may exist between our behavior and our desires.

The Workshop "Cooperation and Partnership" was held by Martial Kouderin. This workshop was mainly focused on strengthening cooperation and partnership between African and European countries while thinking about the topic of sustainable mobility.

The main statements for the discussion were:

- ✦ Also, It is necessary to be able to get into a close dialogue between youth from Africa and Europe. Unfortunately, there are differences in the topic of mobility. We as youth from Europe can get to Africa easily. Unfortunately, this doesn't also apply for African youth who want to come to the EU. The EU tends to block visas because they treat all young people from Africa as possible refugees. We demand to stop the Fortress Europe! Open the borders! We want open places to meet and to get into dialogue which

have to be open for all young people from Africa and Europe regardless of their gender and their socio-economic status. And these rooms must be open for people with disabilities too!

- ✦ We want to ban the use of harmful energies and thus promote clean, so-called renewable energies, which will considerably reduce carbon and greenhouse gas emissions.

What we discussed:

- ✦ Is mobility one of the keys to the emancipation of young people?
- ✦ What are young people's expectations and desires in terms of mobility?
- ✦ What are the obstacles to mobility?
- ✦ What levers do they want to use?
- ✦ What answers can they provide?
- ✦ What are the links between mobility and climate?
- ✦ Exchanges on ecomobility or „tomorrow's mobility": What changes in our current model of cooperation and consequences for our future partnerships?

The main outcomes of the workshops are:

- ✦ The concepts of partnership and cooperation have been redesigned
- ✦ The links between mobility, cooperation and the climate have been highlighted
- ✦ Possible solutions were discussed in relation to the place of mobility in our future cooperation projects
- ✦ Some best practices on mitigation mobility consequences on climate change were shared



4. Advocating for sustainability

The UNFCCC Climate Conferences take place every year but what is the role of young people in it? How can we approach politicians? What political action can we as young people do to create visibility? What do we demand when it comes to sustainability and climate justice?

The Workshop "Advocating for sustainability" was facilitated by Sina Franz and Camille Hamon. The workshop was conducted to empower young people to formulate concrete actions to advocate for climate justice towards political stakeholders e.g at the UNFCCC COPs.

The demands which were shaping this workshop were:

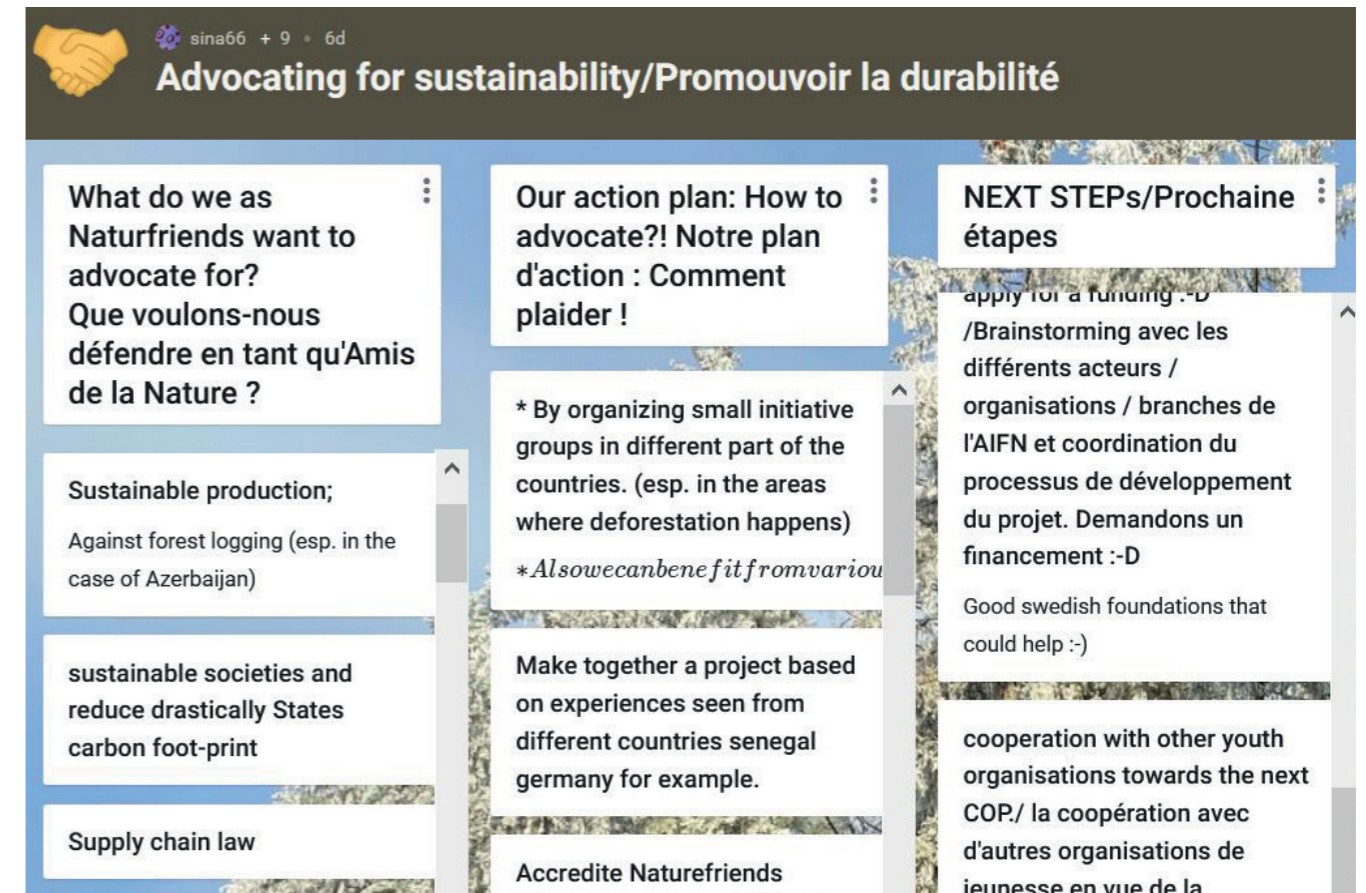
- ✦ Cooperation on eye-level: stop just talking about it, take concrete action
- ✦ Fostering of the socio-ecological transformation by linking subsidies with climate friendly policies

As many times before, to spark a discussion, we started with brainstorming on possible steps that can be done for our advocacy work.

When we tried to think of different issues, we can as Naturefriends advocate for, we ended up with the long list: from a humanitarian migration policy to sustainable production and consumption up to the involvement of young people in decision processes. From a barrier-free infrastructure at UN-Conferences to a supply chain law up to direct funding for local communities.

The main outcomes of this workshop were the following action points:

- ✦ Creating project-based experiences for young people shaped by non-formal education methods
- ✦ Best-practice sharing between young people from the African and European continents
- ✦ Promotion and usage of the right to vote
- ✦ Advocating for green technologies and against fossil fuels
- ✦ Developing broad coalitions/networks with other youth organisations to tackle the issue of climate injustice together
- ✦ Initiating political dialogues between young people and decision makers to exchange opinion and encourage youth participation
- ✦ Usage of social media to spread awareness towards climate justice



How was it for others?

As mentioned, the summit was a fairly big gathering of naturefriends from all around the world. What did they think about this event? How can they use this experience and how do they relate to common demands proposed?

We asked young Naturefriends from Azerbaijan about their point of view and ideas for future steps and cooperation are already promising. This is exactly one of the reasons why it is so valuable to organise projects like this one. To see fruits of your work (or let's

say seeds in this case) which will spark discussions and more climate justice related projects in the coming years.

Let's get active for climate justice! Perspective of Naturefriends Azerbaijan

The executive members of the NatureFriends Azerbaijan youth organisation took part in the online summit on „Naturefriends for Climate Justice“ attended by around 70 young people from all over the world.



„I thought the major step for Climate Justice was “Advocating for Sustainability” – not just talking, but taking concrete actions, that's why I chose this topic as a workshop. Questions that we discussed in the workshop helped to visualize advocacy strategies in my country. Although now is a bit challenging to do that, I hope I can apply what I have learned in the future”
Ayan Shamchiyeva; Vice President of NFA



„Current difficulties in international relations, joint steps and prospects for the future appropriate to the topic was discussed in the workshop on “Justice and Responsibility”, which I attended. The participants offered interesting and different solutions, and reciprocal dialogues and enlightenment was considered important. I also got acquainted with online tools in interactive discussions”
Rovshan Allahverdiyev; Executive member of NFA



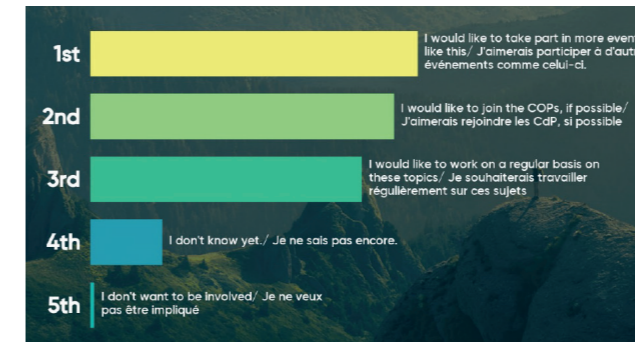
„The summit was an opportunity to do goodwill to future generations, both in the educational and ecological field by combining theoretical and practical knowledge from local and international educational systems. We are responsible for sensitive issues, such as nature, ecology and climate, which we pass on from generation to generation. Experience of different countries, acquaintance with international methods, directed to the solution of climatic problems, their use in our educational system will accelerate the process.”
Khadija Aliyeva; Executive member of NFA and ESC volunteer in IYNF

What's next?

As the summit was the last part of our project where we had a chance to meet with a bigger number of people from the Naturefriends movement, we asked ourselves a question about how we could continue.

The participants from our three groups will still keep meeting and prepare for COP 26 together. Others showed interest in organising more events like this one, which is promising and always great to see this motivation for more international cooperation.

We asked the participants how they could imagine themselves to be involved in the further process. What activities can we work on together?



We also collected the participant's wishes for next time we'll organise a similar event:

- ✿ planning concrete actions
- ✿ more time to discuss concrete actions
- ✿ i wish that the three countries show one of their cultural habits (a dance for example) during breaks
- ✿ more info beforehand and a preparatory task
- ✿ having a more concrete aim what we want to achieve with such a conference
- ✿ energizers
- ✿ if necessary, take two or three days for these conferences to talk more about the workshops
- ✿ when the health crisis is over, think of physical events to encourage cultural mixing and more sharing focus on one specific topic
- ✿ set up a project to train participants on advocacy and denunciation tools but also on the implementation of initiatives such as savings projects
- ✿ to meet physically and share ideas
- ✿ Thanks too much





Final words and Demands

What to say at the end?

NFJD from Germany

The project was a completely new experience for the supervisors and organisers of the overall implementation of the project. A project that is mainly online with only one physical workshop seemed like a big challenge, but at the same time it was a big chance. Coming from a national level, carrying out physical activities and then coming together with young people from three different countries or even more was just inspiring.

In the beginning nobody was able to imagine how it will be and how the collaboration will work. After the first workshops and especially the first jointly organised conference, the trust was built and we were able to rely on each other. Despite the technical issues we had to face during the bigger events, the organisation of the conference and the summit were successful. Together we shaped a great process with new and inspiring ideas during the implementation to make it even better. Creating cooperation on eye-level is what we wanted and what we managed to achieve between the young people from the different countries.

The whole project was inspiring, connecting people beyond borders and a great opportunity for cooperation between the different partners. As NFJD we would like to thank all our partners for their contributions and the great working atmosphere. We are looking forward to our future cooperation and upcoming projects.

ASAN from Sénégal

The project was fascinating and very enriching for ASAN and its participants. Engaging in such a large semi-virtual project was a new experience for us, but in the end we're proud of what we accomplished as a team. We're even prouder being one of the few organisations in Senegal that continued to give the youth space for activism regardless of the context of global pandemic. All of it was possible thanks to our cooperation with NFJD, Credi-ONG and VENRO.

The three-day workshop in our Naturefriends house was a very first successful step in the project. We've had very enthusiastic discussions on climate justice and youth cooperation around the world. We've also had the occasion to meet decision makers and other renowned experts to share our worries and frustrations as young naturefriends. We've rarely been so close to the decision makers of our country.

Finally, the project was a good opportunity to work with fellow young naturefriends from Germany and Benin.

Through the process we developed a better global view of the issues we discussed. And above all, we've covered many aspects surrounding the topic of climate justice: sustainability, intergenerational justice, education... Now that the project is coming closer to its end we are reflecting back on everything we did together despite the distance and the hardships imposed by the context.

ASAN is very looking forward to continuing the process going and expanding the impact of the recommendations. The final demands should be extended to everyone as it mirrors the aspirations of youth around the world. If we look at the process of its framing and the diversity of the participants that made it, we definitely think that the document can be the guiding manual for our future activities, not only for the naturefriends movement but for every climate activist.

CREDI-ONG from BENIN

This was the first opportunity for CREDI-ONG to work on a project in the network of naturefriends since our membership. This project has enabled us to continue our heavy but noble mission not only for global education but also of environmental education and climate change. Despite the difficulties related to the COVID19 pandemic, which did not allow physical meetings, collaborative online project management tools have been developed. The discussions on facilitation methods were enriching and our team learned a lot.

Thank you to all the partners and people without which this initiative would not be possible. Because we cannot stop here, we hope to be able to develop larger cooperation projects together in the coming days.



Common demands

Justice

We demand a partnership on eye level with the same rights, but not the same responsibility for everyone.

Overcome stereotypes: Africa is not a country, but a continent in it's own right! We demand equal rights and agreements that equally profit both the global north and the global south.

We can only achieve sustainable development by recognizing the interdependence of each other.

The fight against climate change must be in line with human rights and respect the rights of minorities. To find solutions, we need to include everyone in the process.

Cooperation

We need strong global agreements and laws that include sanctions by non-compliance.

The costs for a social-ecological transformation must be divided based on the polluter pays principle and a globally just distributed CO2 budget.

The EU must recognize its share of responsibility and tackle the real causes why people are fleeing, rather than spending more and more money on border management, migration defense and military armament.

We demand to stop the over exploitation of natural resources and the dumping of waste and chemicals in the global south. Companies must take responsibility for their entire value chain. We need a European supply chain law so that human rights violations and environmental destruction can be sanctioned globally.

Participation

We need a dialogue of young people! We demand more open and safe spaces for exchange between young people from the global north and the global south. These spaces must be accessible to all, regardless of origin,

gender, socioeconomic status or disabilities. The EU needs to open the borders, to overcome differences in the topic of mobility.

Young people need to be included! We demand more youth participation, for example by building committees of young people in ministries, lowering the voting age, consulting young people and fund projects by young environment activists.

We need an open dialogue of people of all ages. Climate change is not only a global problem, it is also an intergenerational one. There is no use in blaming older people for the past.

Education

We need to rethink our educational systems! We demand to invest in non-formal, environmental and global citizenship education to prepare the future generations to face global issues.

We demand quick and easy access to information about climate change. Therefore, we need awareness campaigns, a strong community engagement and media coverage, like we had during the Covid 19 pandemic outburst. Because climate change is an emergency as well!

Sustainability

We demand to take concrete actions! Stop just talking about climate protection. No more broken promises.

We demand to foster the socio-ecological transformation by linking subsidies with climate friendly policies and conditions. There also should be an environmental impact assessment before implementing any project.

We want to ban the use of harmful energies and thus promote clean, so-called renewable energies, which will considerably reduce carbon and greenhouse gas emissions.



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